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CA 2308086 A1 2001/11/10

(21) **2 308 086**

(12) **DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN  
CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(13) **A1**

(22) Date de dépôt/Filing Date: 2000/05/10

(41) Mise à la disp. pub./Open to Public Insp.: 2001/11/10

(51) Cl.Int.<sup>7</sup>/Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup> A42B 3/04

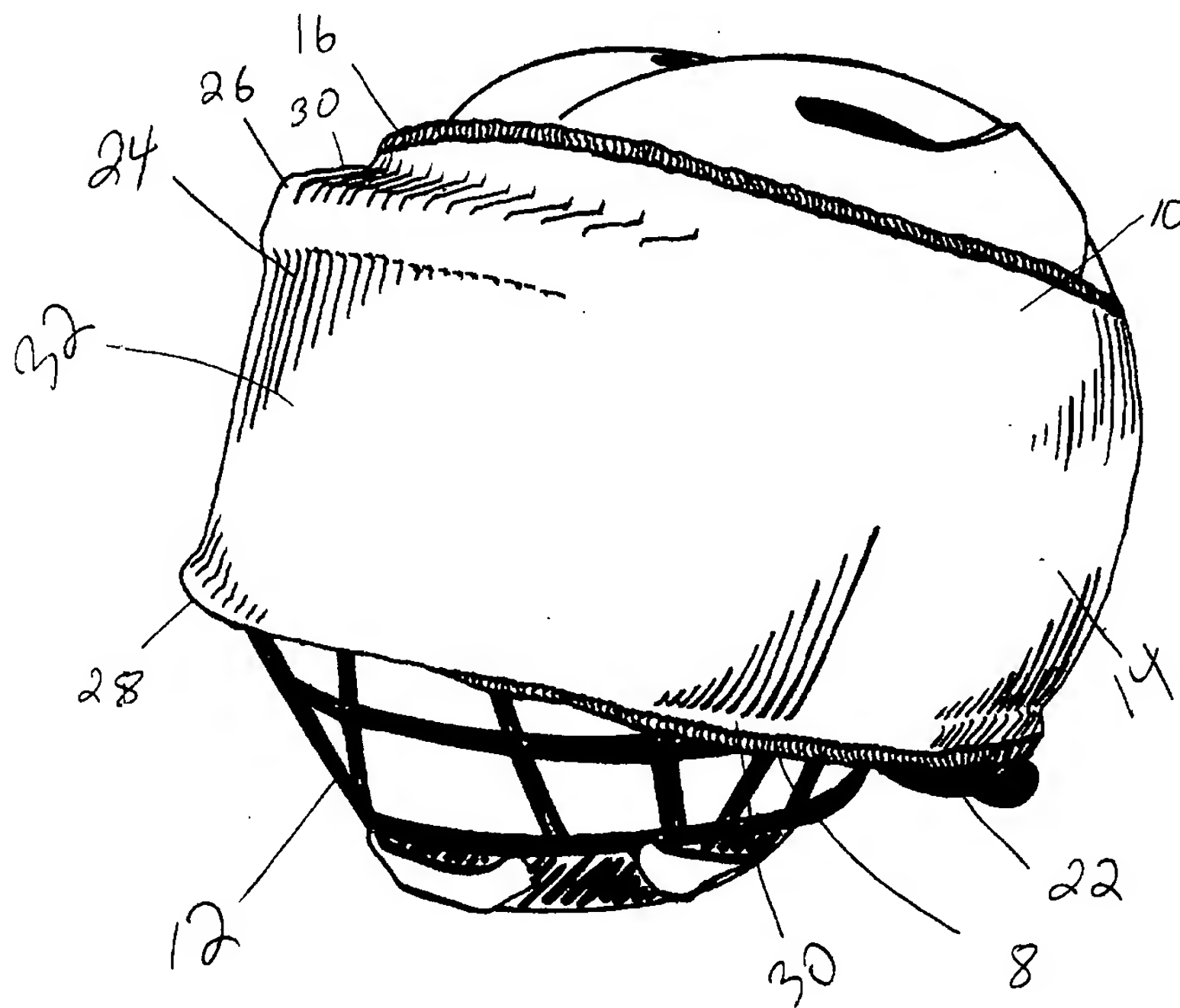
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(54) Titre : PROTECTEUR POUR VISIERE DE CASQUE

(54) Title: HELMET VISOR COVER



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A helmet visor protector is disclosed for protecting the helmet visor of a helmet. The cover consists of a tubular band made of a resilient stretchable material. The tubular band has opposite ends, an internal diameter and a width. The internal diameter of the band is selected to be less than the diameter of the helmet but sufficient to permit the band to cover over the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet. The width of the band is likewise selected to completely cover the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet.



**ABSTRACT**

A helmet visor protector is disclosed for protecting the helmet visor of a helmet. The cover consists of a tubular band made of a resilient stretchable material. The tubular band has opposite ends, an internal diameter and a width. The internal diameter of the band is selected to be less than the diameter of the helmet but sufficient to permit the band to cover over the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet. The width of the band is likewise selected to completely cover the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet.

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION:**

The invention relates generally to the field of helmet visor covers for protecting a helmet visor from damage during storage.

**5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:**

The modern sport of hockey generally requires players to wear protective helmets to guard the players from head injuries. Recently, the trend has been to incorporate clear plastic visors into hockey helmets in order to protect a players eyes and face. While these visors certainly help protect the players eyes and face, they can obstruct a players vision if the visors become scratched  
10 or dirty. Unfortunately, when hockey helmets are stored, the player generally places his helmet in a locker or equipment storage bag where the visor can be scratched by rubbing against hard surfaces such as hockey gloves, skates and the like. In order to protect the visors from damage, many players tend to place their helmets in separate storage bags. Unfortunately, these storage bags tend to be bulky and add to the overall bulk of the helmet when the helmet is stored in a  
15 players equipment storage bag. Furthermore, after a player removes his helmet after playing ice hockey, the helmet tends to be wet with perspiration. A typical storage bag will interfere with the evaporation of the perspiration therefore the helmet tends to become moldy. In addition, since the helmet storage bag tends to keep the inside of the helmet damp, the glues and resins used to adhere the helmet padding to the inside of the helmet tends to deteriorate and the life of the  
20 helmet is reduced. Therefore, many hockey players refuse to store their helmets in a storage bag and there remains a need for an inexpensive and non-bulky device for protecting the visors of a helmet.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:**

In accordance with the present invention is a helmet visor protector is disclosed for protecting the helmet visor of a helmet. The cover consists of a tubular band made of a resilient stretchable material. The tubular band has opposite ends, an internal diameter and a width. The internal diameter of the band is selected to be less than the diameter of the helmet but sufficient to permit the band to cover over the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet. The width of the band is likewise selected to completely cover the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:**

FIGURE 1. is a perspective view of the invention showing the invention about to be applied to a visor equipped helmet.

FIGURE 2. is a perspective view of the present invention mounted onto a visor equipped helmet.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:**

Referring firstly to figure 1, the present invention is a visor band shown generally as item 10 which is essentially a tubular band 14 made of a resilient stretchable material having opposite ends 16 and 18 and internal diameter 20. The internal diameter of band 14 is selected to be less than the outside diameter of visor equipped helmet 12. Visor equipped helmet 12 has two portions namely helmet portion 12 and visor portion 24 which is attached to the helmet portion. Visor 24 generally has an upper peripheral edge 26 and a lower peripheral edge 28 and is generally made of

a clear plastic material.

Band 14 is made of a stretchable resilient material which can easily be stretched such that band 14 may be stretched over visor equipped helmet 12 as shown in figure 2. Internal diameter 20 of  
5 band 14 is selected such that when band 14 is stretched over visor equipped helmet 12, band 14 will make tight contact with visor 24. The width of band 14 is select such that band 14 will completely cover visor 24 when the band is stretched over visor equipped helmet 12.

Band 14 is preferably made of a stretchable elastic material which can be easily stretched over a  
10 helmet but yet returned to its original shape when removed. Preferably, band 14 is made of a blend of at least two fabrics, one of which is elastic, the other fabric being sufficiently soft to prevent visor 24 from scratching. A fabric blend consisting of cotton and Lycra™ was found to be useful, particularly if the cotton formed a majority of the blend. Cotton is particularly useful since it is both soft and durable.

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It may be less expensive to make band 14 out of a durable and soft material which can not be stretched easily, provided edges 16 and 18 are made of an elastic material and provided the internal diameter 20 of band 14 is narrower at ends 16 and 18. In this case, ends 16 and 18 will stretch over visor equipped helmet 12 and secure visor 24 between edges 18 and 16. Central  
20 portion 32 of band 14 does not stretch but simply drapes over helmet portion 24.

Referring now to figure 2, when cover 10 is stretched onto visor equipped helmet 12 visor 24 is

completely covered by band 14 such that edges 28 and 26 of visor 24 are also covered by band 14. The lip of central portion 32 of band 14 is sufficiently wide so that portion 30 of band 14 adjacent edge 16 and portion 34 of band 14 adjacent edge 18 extend beyond peripheral edge 26 and 28, respectively of visor 24. Since band 14 is wider than visor 24, and since ends 16 and 18  
5 of the band are elastic and will contract, the entire visor 24 will be protected by the band.

When the hockey player desires to store his or her helmet following a game, he merely stretches band 14 over visor equipped helmet 24 by opening band 14 at end 18 and stretching end 18 over the helmet. When visor 24 is completely covered by band 14, the player may then store the  
10 hockey helmet. Since cover 10 only covers over a portion of visor equipped helmet 12, air may pass through the helmet to ventilate and dry out the perspiration contained within.

Thus, it is apparent that there has been provided, in accordance with the present invention, a visor protector that satisfies the advantages set forth above. Although the preferred embodiment has  
15 been described in detail, it should be understood that various changes, substitutions, and alterations may be apparent to those skilled in the art and may be made herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A cover for protecting a helmet visor comprising a tubular band made of a resilient stretchable material, the tubular band having opposite ends, an internal diameter and a width, the internal diameter of the band selected to be less than the diameter of the helmet  
5 but sufficient to permit the band to cover over the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet, the width of the band selected to completely cover the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet.
2. A cover as defined in claim 1 wherein the material forming the band is a soft elastic cloth  
10 material.
3. A cover as defined in claim 2 wherein the material is formed from a blend of at least two fabrics, one of said fabrics being elastic.
- 15 4. A cover as defined in claim 3 wherein one of the fabrics is cotton.
5. A cover as defined in claim 4 wherein a majority of the fabric strands are not elastic.
- 20 6. A cover as defined in claim 5 wherein the band is formed from a blend of cotton and Lycra fabrics.

7. A cover for protecting a helmet visor comprising a tubular band made of a cloth material, the tubular band having a width and opposite ends defining opposing openings each having an internal diameter, a portion of the band adjacent the opposite ends being made of a resilient stretchable material, the diameter of the opposing openings selected to be less than the diameter of the helmet but sufficient to permit the band to cover over the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet, the width of the band selected to completely cover the visor when the band is stretched over and onto the helmet.



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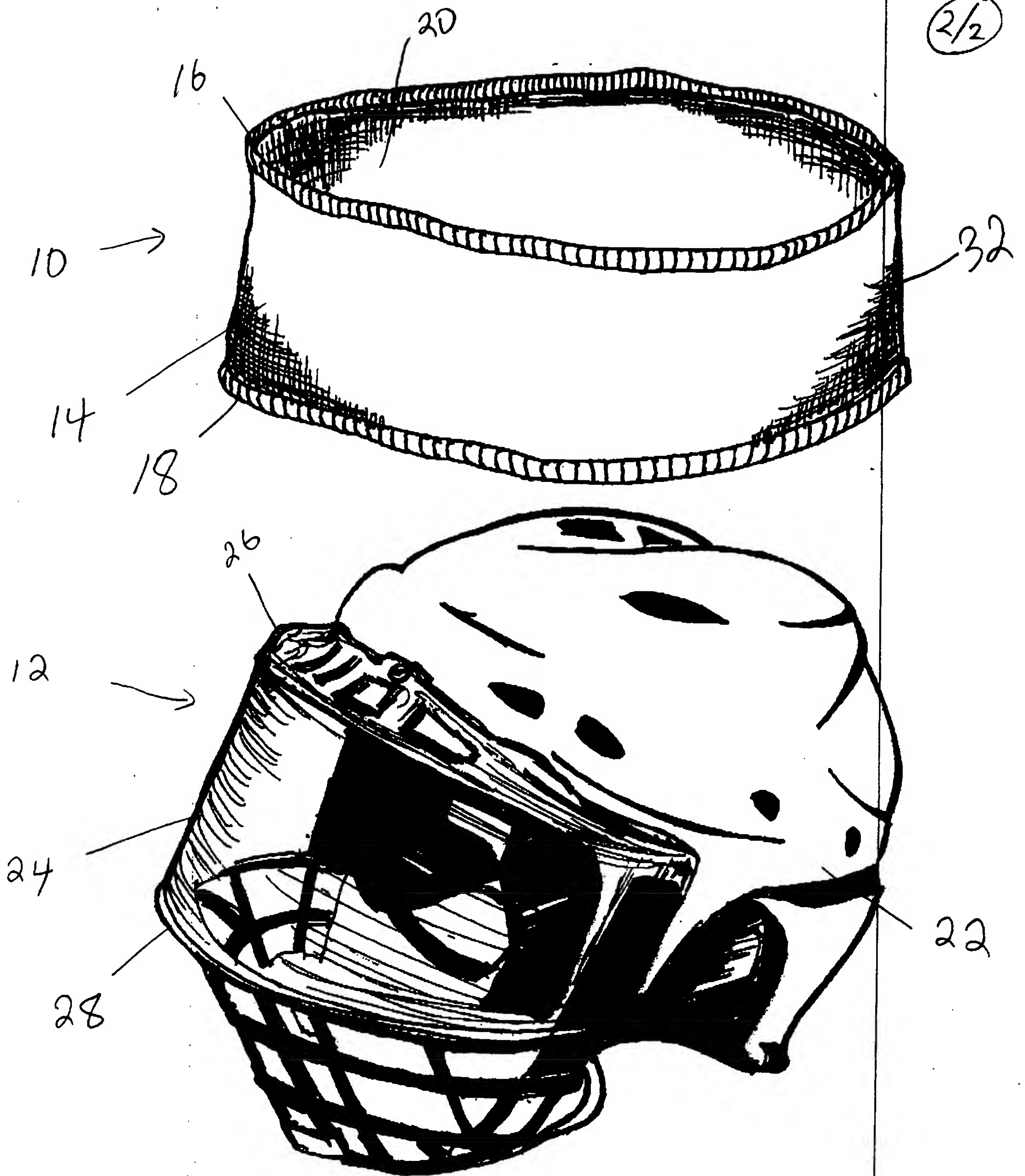


Fig. # 1

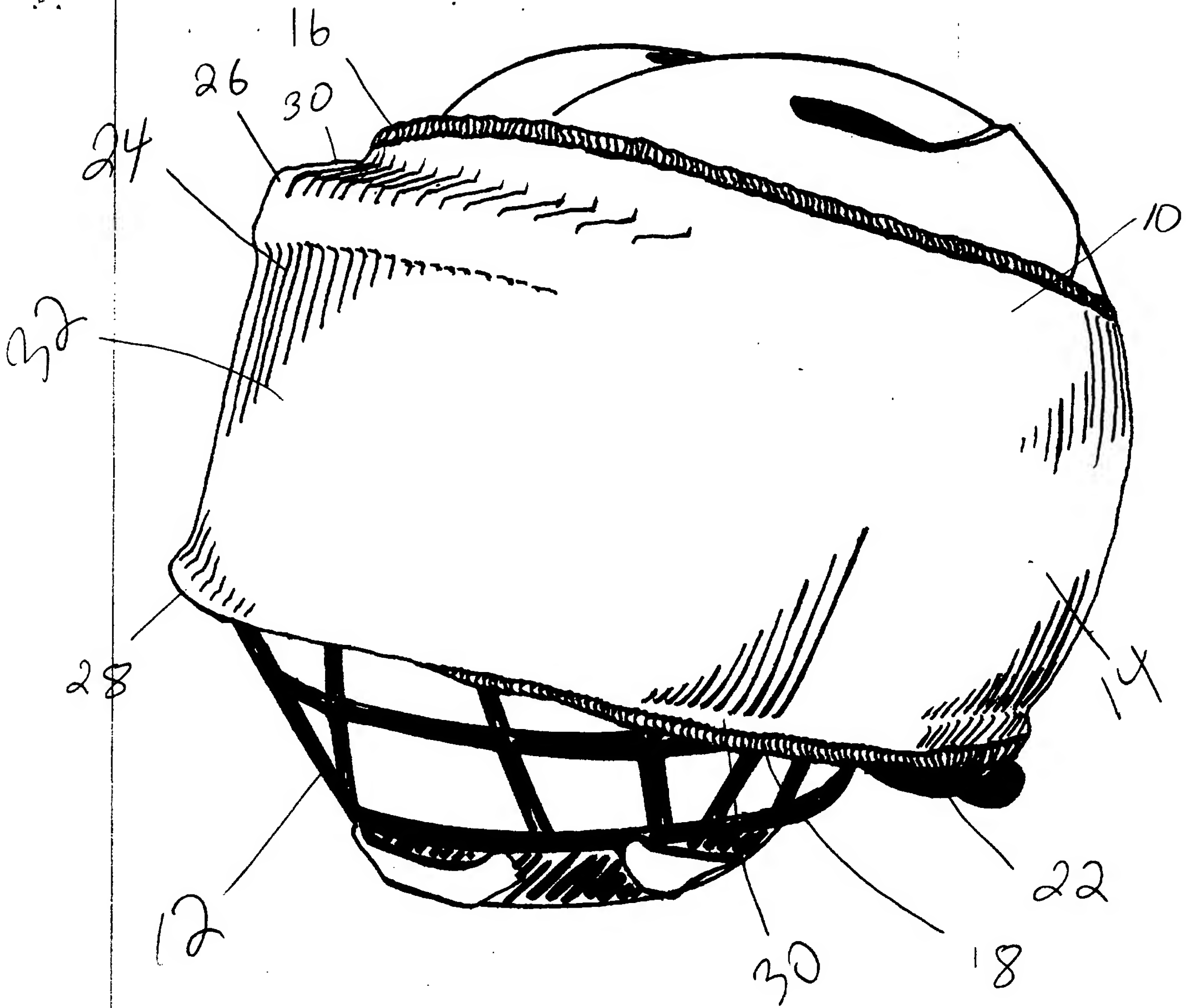


Fig. 2